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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**I. HEADING**

**DATE:** September 13, 2002

**SUBJECT:** **POLREP for the Lefton Iron and Metal Removal Site, East St. Louis, St. Clair County, Illinois**

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**POLREP #:** POLREP #12 Final (Fund Financed)

**II. BACKGROUND**

Response Authority: CERCLA (# ILD984809244)	NPL Status: Non-NPL
Action Memorandum Status: September 26, 2001	State Notification: September 26, 2001
Completion Date: September 13, 2002	Start Date: October 24, 2001

  

Latitude: 38°36'41"N (205 South 17 <sup>th</sup> Street)	38°36'29" N (1901 South Converse Street)
Longitude: 90°08'55"W	90°08'49" W

**III. SITE INFORMATION**

**A. Incident Category**

Time critical scrap steel and soil removal from a former scrap metal recycling facility.

**B. Site Description**

**1. Site location**

The Lefton Iron & Metal Site ("Site") consist of two (2) physically separated locations within the city boundaries of East St. Louis, Illinois. Lefton West, 205 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street, is bounded by railroad tracks to the northeast, 17<sup>th</sup> Street on the southeast, Brady Avenue on the southwest, and a commercial business to the northwest. Lefton East, 1901 Converse Avenue, is bordered by Brady Avenue on the northeast, 19<sup>th</sup> Street on the northwest, Converse Avenue on the southwest, and a residential area on the southeast.

**2. Description of threat**

D5NC

It was determined that impacted soil from past scrap steel receiving activities created a hazardous situation for residents living near the Site. Contaminants of concern were primarily polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's), lead and other heavy metals. The high levels of PCB's and lead in surface soil were at concentrations considered hazardous and the Site's proximity to residential properties and other businesses required immediate control and removal activities.

### **3. Site background**

The Lefton Iron and Metal Site is an inactive scrap metal recycling complex that previously separated and sized ferrous and non-ferrous metals prior to sale and shipment to an off-site metal recycling (thermal) facility.

The Lefton Iron and Metal Site had previously received a complaint alleging that PCBs were present at the Site. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) was able to gain access and sample Lefton West and the area behind the Lefton East locations. PCB's were detected at concentrations above 50 mg/kg. The IEPA was never able to gain access to Lefton East or obtain a response by the PRP's and thus requested the assistance of the U. S. EPA.

It was noted during the Phase II site investigation, that electrical transformers and/or capacitors containing PCB laden oils had released the oils into the Lefton West soil matrix. Additionally, elevated levels of lead were detected within the soil at both locations. Also, several large piles of scrap steel and other heavy metals have been placed around the confines of both locations.

### **4. State and local actions to date**

The Lefton Iron and Metal Site came to the U.S. EPA, Region 5, Removal Branch's attention from a traditional referral from the Illinois EPA. The Illinois EPA has through the years performed numerous sampling efforts to document the presence of lead and PCB contamination.

## **IV. SITE INFORMATION**

### **A. Situation**

#### **1. Response activities to date**

Work began on the Site in October 2001, with the following:

- An on-site security guard service was contracted to maintain site security after regular business hours and weekends. Also, repairs were made to the existing Site security fence in order to restrict trespasser access and overall improvements to general Site security considerations.
- Several segregation work areas, with one designated as a clean area, was created to facilitate the separation of ferrous and non-ferrous scrap steel, tires, crushed and intact drum carcasses, compressed gas cylinders, and other miscellaneous articles. Also, a metal recycling contractor was hired to conduct on-site scrap steel sorting, sizing, inspections and loading operations in order to facilitate the off-site transportation of scrap steel to a steel smelting facility.
- A site grid system was established to benefit site cleanup activities and for development of permanent site records.
- In December, 2001, explosive experts from the United States Air Force (USAF), 932<sup>nd</sup> Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit, Scott Air Force Base, removed 14 practice (dummy) bombs and exploded off-site at a nearby quarry. As expected, all dummy bombs were filled with sand which was removed in

order to prepare bomb casings for scrap steel recycling.

- A total of 25,178.13 tons of non-hazardous soil was excavated, transported and disposed of at the local Subtitle Class "D" Roxana landfill facility.
- Due to the economic savings obtained by rail transportation and disposal of PCB impacted soil, the existing rail spur located at the Lefton East Site was upgraded to accommodate loading, transportation and disposal of 26,639.12 tons of PCB soil to a EPA approved TSCA landfill in Oklahoma.
- Arrangements were made with the local electric utility company to remove one PCB containing pole mounted transformer and disposed of at no expense to the USEPA.
- Additionally, arrangements were made to remove two former underground storage (diesel) tanks that were cleaned and sold as scrap steel. Also, disposal arrangements were made for three furnaces containing non-regulated N.O.R.M (naturally occurring radioactive material) firebrick into a local Subtitle Class "D" landfill.
- Due to a substantial amounts with regards to PCB impacted soil disposal requirements, an increase of \$ 1,374,684.00 to the spending cap was approved on April 3, 2002.
- A total of 33 drum carcasses were removed from a burial pit located at the Lefton East property.
- Approximately 11,694 tires to date have been removed from the Site and disposed under the Illinois EPA (IEPA) tire recycling program.
- On May 30, 2002, the OSC instructed the ERRS contractor to stop any further PCB excavation.
- Backfill activities were completed on July 26, 2002.
- Approximately 46,758 tons of clean backfill have been delivered and graded at both the Lefton West and Lefton East sites.
- On August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, representatives from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency performed Geoprobe™ sampling services regarding sub-surface residual contamination.
- Both the Lefton East and Lefton West Sites were over seeded with a drought resistant grass seed in September of 2002.

**B. Planned Removal Activities**

- N/A

**C. Next Steps**

- START Team member will develop and submit to EPA the final Site report.

**D. Key Issues**

- None.

**E. Enforcement**

- Enforcement/Cost recovery activities are pending at this time.

**V. COSTS**

	<u>Cost to date</u>	<u>Ceiling</u>	<u>% Remaining</u>
ERRS	\$ 4,196,985.40	\$ 4,297,751.00	0.03 %
START	\$ 108,207.45	\$ 130,000.00	16.76 %
EPA	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 84,900.00	30.38 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,377,192.85</b>	<b>\$ 4,488,801.00</b>	<b>0.025 %</b>

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based upon figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor. Other financial data, which the OSC must rely upon, may not be entirely up to date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

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**VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES**

<u>Media</u>	<u>Waste stream</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Transportation</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Disposal</u>
Scrap	Steel	2911.50 Tons	Truck	Thermal	Recycle
RR Ties		126.41 Tons	Truck	NA	Landfill
Soil	Lead (non-hazardous)	25178.13 Tons	Truck	NA	Landfill
Soil	PCB's (TSCA)	26639.12 Tons	Rail	NA	Landfill

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- Munkelers Abandon Dnn site - Estimatedly 3XM
- Start & complete date = 2/10/02 & 7/10/02

Medic Waste		Medic Waste		Clean up And		units	
Chlorinated compound		Liquid waste					
Contaminated solids		Solid waste					
Site Debris		Debris		9 bags		other containers	
				12		Drums	
				<del>9 bags</del> 115		<del>other containers</del>	
						Cells	

→ Jack did not see any Duplicate Medication for this site.

American Tissue - Ohio

Final Polup. 9/20/02

VI. DISPOSAL INFORMATION start & complete dates: 9/3/02 & 9/20/02.

NAME <sup>Need</sup> <sup>Media type</sup> Wastestream	Quantity	Disposal Option	Disposal Date	Disposal Facility
✓ Flammable liquids	Approximately <u>1,500 gallons</u>	Fuels Blending	9/10/02	Perma-Fix Dayton, Ohio
✓ Acid liquids <del>waste</del>	2 drums (90 gal)	Neutralization	9/19/02	Perma-Fix Dayton, Ohio
✓ Caustic liquids	1 drum (45 gal)	Neutralization	9/19/02	Perma-Fix Dayton, Ohio
✓ Paint waste	1 drum <u>≈ 55 gal.</u> (40 containers)	Incineration	9/19/02	Perma-Fix Dayton, Ohio
✓ Transformers	9 each ND - other	Incineration	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ PCB liquid drained from transformers	13 drums <u>13 x 55 gal</u> = 715 gal	Incineration	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ Absorbent pads, PPE, and soil contaminated with PCB oil	1 drum	Incineration	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ Circuit breaker boxes	33 boxes	Incineration	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ Oil from 4 circuit breaker boxes	1 drum	Fuels Blending	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ Liquid drained from a non-PCB transformer	11 drums <u>11 x 55 gal</u> = 605 gal	Fuels Blending	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ Capacitors	4 each	Incineration	9/19/02	Safety-Kleen Tallmadge, Ohio
✓ Non hazardous solid lab pack	3 lab packs	Landfill	9/20/02	EEI Cincinnati, Ohio
✓ Empty drums and containers	10 cubic yards	Landfill	9/17/02	Rumpke Landfill Cincinnati, Ohio
✓ Propane cylinder	1 each	Recycling	9/20/02	Ferrellgas Cincinnati, Ohio
✓ Elemental mercury	Approximately 40 pounds	Recycling	9/5/02	Bowling Green University Bowling Green, Ohio (through Ohio EPA)

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